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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,059	03/19/2001	Daniel P. McCune	01-035-US	9010

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EXAMINER

HOPKINS, ROBERT A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1724

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,059

Applicant(s)

MCCUNE ET AL.

Examiner

Robert A. Hopkins

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-9, 11, 12, 14-16 and 26-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 9, 11, 12, 14-16 and 26-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

5-02

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

The restriction/election requirement mailed 6/15/05 is hereby withdrawn upon consideration of applicant's response and arguments filed 7/14/05. Therefore claims 6-9, 11, 12, 14-16, and 26-30 are pending in the current application and the current office action is based on the above noted pending claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Edens(4402828).

Edens teaches a filter housing comprising a dome(12 in figure 2) and an integrated base assembly(18; note the term “unitary” in column 3 line 52 and “integral” and machine cut in column 2 lines 25-38), wherein the base assembly comprises a plurality of cartridge filter bores(25) having a lower portion, an inlet manifold(53), an outlet manifold(54), an integral cartridge plate(38) with an upper face, and a plurality of sloped bores(77 in figure 7) connecting the lower portion of the plurality of cartridge filter bores with the outlet manifold.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 8 recites "wherein said outlet manifold is at the center of the cartridge plate". Edens teaches an outlet manifold(54) which is below the cartridge plate and offset from the center. It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide an outlet manifold which is at the center of a cartridge plate because Edens does not suggest such a modification.

Claims 6,9,11,12,14-16,26-30 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 6 recites " an integral cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the upper face of said cartridge plate is recessed toward the outlet manifold, and a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate , wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold". Edens teaches an outlet manifold(54) which is below the cartridge plate and offset from the center, and therefore does not teach wherein the upper face of said cartridge plate is recessed toward the outlet manifold. Also, Edens does not teach a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate , wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold(53). Pett(4331535) in figures 1 and 2 teaches an outlet manifold(19) which is below the cartridge plate(9) and offset from the center, and therefore does not teach wherein the upper face of said cartridge plate is recessed toward the outlet manifold.

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Also, Pett does not teach a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate, wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold(10). It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide an integral cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the upper face of said cartridge plate is recessed toward the outlet manifold, and a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate, wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold because neither Edens nor Pett teaches such a modification. Also, neither Ogden(3727764) nor Allegany Bradford Corporation Brochure nor Pall Housing Data Sheet H21 or H25 teach or suggest the above claimed limitations.

Claim 14 recites "an integrated base including a plurality of cartridge filter bores, an inlet bore, an outlet bore, and an integral cartridge plate; and a cleaning wand, wherein said cleaning wand is adapted to be inserted through the vertical access port in the top of said dome and is further adapted to be inserted through a bore in said cartridge plate". Edens teaches an integrated base including a plurality of cartridge filter bores, an inlet bore, an outlet bore, and an integral cartridge plate, however the filter housing dome(12) does not include a vertical access port, and Edens also does not teach a cleaning wand, wherein said cleaning wand is adapted to be inserted through the vertical access port in the top of said dome and is further adapted to be inserted through a bore in said cartridge plate. Lumsden(4128480) teaches a filter housing having filter leave elements(6) and a spray bar(19) connected to a shaft(17), wherein the shaft is inserted through a vertical access port in a filter dome(2). However the spray bar(19) is parallel with the dome(2) and therefore is not adapted to be inserted

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through the vertical access port, and also the spray bar is not adapted to be inserted through a bore in a cartridge plate. It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide an integrated base including a plurality of cartridge filter bores, an inlet bore, an outlet bore, and an integral cartridge plate; and a cleaning wand, wherein said cleaning wand is adapted to be inserted through the vertical access port in the top of said dome and is further adapted to be inserted through a bore in said cartridge plate because neither Edens nor Lumsden suggest such a modification. Claims 15, 16, and 30 depend on claim 14 and hence are also allowed.

Claim 26 recites "a cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the plurality of cartridge filter bores, the inlet manifold and the outlet manifold are bored through the upper face of said cartridge plate, and wherein the upper face slopes downwardly from an outer edge of the upper face to the outlet manifold. Edens and Pett teach an outlet manifold which is below the cartridge plate and offset from the center, and therefore does not teach an outlet manifold which is bored through the upper face of a cartridge plate. Also, Edens and Pett do not teach wherein the upper face slopes downwardly from an outer edge of the upper face to the outlet manifold. It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the plurality of cartridge filter bores, the inlet manifold and the outlet manifold are bored through the upper face of said cartridge plate, and wherein the upper face slopes downwardly from an outer edge of the upper face to the outlet manifold because neither Edens nor Pett suggest such a modification.

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Also, neither Ogden(3727764) nor Allegany Bradford Corporation Brochure nor Pall Housing Data Sheet H21 or H25 teach or suggest the above claimed limitations.

Claims 9,11,12,and 27 depend on claim 26 and hence are also allowed.

Claim 28 recites "a cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the plurality of cartridge filter bores, the inlet manifold and the outlet manifold are bored through the upper face of said cartridge plate, and wherein the upper face includes a recession which slopes to the inlet manifold, whereby the recession directs unfiltered product towards the inlet manifold when the filtering process is over". Edens and Pett teach an outlet manifold which is below the cartridge plate and offset from the center, and therefore does not teach an outlet manifold which is bored through the upper face of a cartridge plate. Also, Edens and Pett do not teach wherein the upper face includes a recession which slopes to the inlet manifold, whereby the recession directs unfiltered product towards the inlet manifold when the filtering process is over. It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a cartridge plate with an upper face, wherein the plurality of cartridge filter bores, the inlet manifold and the outlet manifold are bored through the upper face of said cartridge plate, and wherein the upper face includes a recession which slopes to the inlet manifold, whereby the recession directs unfiltered product towards the inlet manifold when the filtering process is over because neither Edens nor Pett suggest such a modification. Also, neither Ogden(3727764) nor Allegany Bradford Corporation Brochure nor Pall Housing Data Sheet H21 or H25 teach or suggest the above claimed limitations.

Claim 29 recites "a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate, wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold". Both Edens and Pett teach an integral cartridge plate with an upper face, but do not teach a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate, wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold. Both have an inlet manifold which has an opening which is parallel with the top of the plate. It would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a channel in said upper face of the cartridge plate, wherein said channel feeds into said inlet manifold because neither Edens nor Pett suggest such a modification. Also, neither Ogden(3727764) nor Allegany Bradford Corporation Brochure nor Pall Housing Data Sheet H21 or H25 teach or suggest the above claimed limitations.

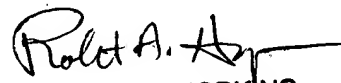
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert A. Hopkins whose telephone number is 571-272-1159. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rah
August 10, 2005


ROBERT A. HOPKINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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